THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. However, some stations' name boards falling under the specified districts have been displayed in Urdu also. As per extant policy, no new additions have been made recently.

(b) Yes, Sir. As per the Haryana Official Language (Amendment) Act, 2004, Punjabi is the second language of Haryana.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per the extant Language Policy of the Central Government, Station Name Boards, Sign Boards etc. in Haryana, are to be displayed in Hindi & English.

High speed trains

1923. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to run high speed train service between the long distance busy routes as well as considering to reduce the journey time by increasing the speeds of various long distance trains in the country;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) how many trains would be benefited, particularly from Maharashtra bound trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) At present, high speed trains (speed above 200 kilometre per hour) are not run over Indian Railways. The fastest train running over Indian Railways, at present, is 2001/2002 New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express which attains a maximum speed of 150 kmph between Tughlakabad and Agra only. However, speeding up of passenger trains is an ongoing process over Indian Railways subject to availability of resources, requisite infrastructure and operational feasibility, irrespective of geographical boundaries. During the current financial year 2006-07, 657 trains have been speeded up and other 192 trains have been made superfast so far.